



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20223

Freedom of Information Act & Privacy Act Program
Communications Center
245 Murray Lane, SW, Building T-5
Washington, D.C. 20223

Date: June 6, 2019

MuckRock
DEPT MR 74375
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516
Attn: Emma Best
74375-15759173@requests.muckrock.com

File Number: 20190810

Dear Requester:

This letter is intended to acknowledge the receipt of your recent Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, received by the United States Secret Service (Secret Service) on June 4, 2019, for information pertaining to Documents mentioning or relating to Anonymous (the hacker movement/collective, see below) or hacktivism (defined as hacking as a form of protest and/or activism) generated between 1 January 2009 and 1 January 2019, including but not limited to:

- Internal reports, bulletins, warnings and alerts relating to Anonymous or hacktivism;
- Reports from the appropriate IT (Information Technology) or computer offices regarding possible cyber attacks by Anonymous or other hacktivists;
- Reports, bulletins, warnings and alerts relating to or mentioning Anonymous or hacktivism sent to or received from any federal law enforcement or intelligence agencies or any fusion center;
- Incident reports investigating possible hacking activity falling within the office's jurisdiction and allegedly carried out by members of Anonymous or other hacktivist groups; and
- Materials generated as a result of any suspected or actual compromise, breach or "dox" (revealing of personal or private information) by Anonymous or other hacktivists.

Please be advised, your request for a fee waiver will be held in abeyance pending the quantification of responsive records. The FOIA regulations, Title 6 C.F.R., Chapter I, Part 5 § 5.11(k)(2)(3), set forth six factors to examine when determining whether the applicable legal standard for a fee waiver has been met. We will consider these factors in our evaluation of your request for a fee waiver:

- 1) Whether the subject of the requested records concerns "the operations or activities of the government;"
- 2) Whether the disclosure is "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities;

- 3) Whether disclosure of the requested information will contribute to the understanding of the public at large, as opposed to the individual understanding of the requestor or a narrow segment of interested persons;
- 4) Whether the contribution of public understanding of government operations or activities will be "significant;"
- 5) Whether the requester has a commercial interest that would be furthered by the requested disclosure; and
- 6) Whether the magnitude of any identified commercial interest to the requestor is sufficiently large in comparison with the public interest in disclosure, that disclosure is primarily in the commercial interest of the requestor.

If any responsive records are located, we will consider these factors in our evaluation of your request for a fee waiver. In the event that your fee waiver is denied, we shall charge you for the records in accordance with FOIA regulations as they apply to "media" requesters. The first 100 pages of duplication are free of charge. As a "media" requester, you will be charged .10 cents a page for the duplication of each additional page.

Furthermore, the submission of your request is viewed as an agreement, by you, to pay duplication costs up to \$25.00. A search for files responsive to your request is being conducted. The appropriate components of the Secret Service are being queried for responsive documents. If any responsive records are located, they will be reviewed for a disclosure determination. You will be contacted before any additional fees are accrued.

Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. As your request seeks documents that will require a thorough and wide-ranging search, the Secret Service will invoke a 10-day extension for your request pursuant to 6 C.F.R., Part 5 § 5.5(c). If you would like to narrow the scope of your request, please contact our office. We will make every effort to comply with your request in a timely manner. Additionally, per Section 5.5(a) of the FOIA regulations, 6 C.F.R, Chapter I, Part 5, Secret Service processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt.

Your request has been assigned FOIA File No. 20190810. We solicit your cooperation and assure you that the search will be conducted as expeditiously as possible. To check the status of your FOIA request, please contact this office at (202) 406-6370.

Please use the file number indicated above in all future correspondence with this office.

Thank you,

Freedom of Information Act & Privacy Act Program
United States Secret Service
245 Murray Lane, SW, Building T-5
Washington, DC 20223
Phone: (202) 406-6370
Fax: (202) 406-5586
Email: FOIA@USSS.DHS.GOV